Union, has been drawn up in consultation with all concerned Administrative Ministries, keeping in view India's development needs, health of the Indian economy and Balance of Payments position.

Coffee produced by the Coffee Board

3549. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the acreage of coffee owned by Coffee Board either in the research station or demonstration plots;

(b) what is the quantum of coffee picked in these plots per acre for the last five years;

(c) the revenue earned from the crop year-wise during the last five years;

(d) the total expenditure incurred on maintenance of these plots by Coffee Board during the last five years, year-wise;

(e) whether Government are aware that Coffee Board plots are manned by experts, yet the crop picked is equivalent to that of crop picked by private planter; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor and what remedial measures has been taken to improve the production?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI RAMAKRISHNA HEGDE):

(a)	Research Stations (In ha.)	Coffee Demonstration Farms
Total Planted area	251.61	92.04
Bearing Area	239.14	88.23

(b) The average production of the coffee for the 5 years is 447 kgs. per in Research Stations and 681 kgs. in Coffee Demonstration Farms respectively.

(c) The revenue earned from these crops year-wise during the last five years are as follows:—

(Rs. in Lakhs)

Year	Research Stations		Coffee Demonstration Farms	
	Coffee	Pepper	Coffee	Pepper
1992-93	52.50	5.25	29.69	6.00
1993-94	59.32	6.75	33.98	7.00
1994-95	64.68	7.25	30.07	8.00
1995-96	69.61	7.75	33.36	9.00
1996-97	76.40	8.00	35.30	10.00

(d) The total expenditure incurred on maintenance of these plots by the Coffee Board during the last five years are as follows:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Research Stations	Coffee Demonstration Farms
1992-93	47.96	31.09
1993-94	51.29	25.30
1994-95	59.20	31.19
1995-96	82.13	35.18
1996-97	96.38	36.48

(e) and (f) Research Stations and Coffee Demonstration Farms are maintained to carry out various experiments to improve production, evaluate newer selections, try out different pests and disease combating measures and experiment various agronomical techniques and to standardize parameters like variety selection, pest and disease control methods, planting and replanting methods, etc. They are not meant for commercial production of coffee. Thus, coffee grown in Research Farms and Demonstration Farms cannot be compared with the coffee production by private planters.